

## **Public Notice – Environmental Project**

### **PURPOSE OF NOTICE:**

The Department of Environmental Quality seeks public comment on the state's response to the environmental aspects of a proposed project in Newport News, Virginia.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

July 2, 2009 to July 29, 2009

### **TYPE OF RESPONSE:**

Federal Consistency Determination

DEQ is reviewing a federal action to determine if it is consistent with the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act. The act seeks to protect the quality of air, water or other natural resources in Virginia's coastal area.

### **NAME OF AGENCY PROPOSING THE PROJECT:**

DOD/Department of the Army/Fort Eustis

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Fort Eustis has submitted an environmental assessment (EA) and a federal consistency determination (FCD) on a proposed project to remove trees that exceed safety height requirements. The project is needed to provide increased runway safety during take-off and landing of aircraft. The EA evaluates the environmental effects of a no action alternative, the proposed action and an alternative one. For the purposes of the proposed action, the northwest end of the Felker Airfield runway would be subdivided into three quads. The proposed action would cut and maintain all vegetation to grade within quad one; cut all trees, shrubs, bushes, or any other natural growth to obtain a gradual vegetation height of 30 feet to 55 feet in quad two; and 55 feet to 80 feet in quad three; and cut and maintain to grade all trees along the road in the buffer area. Long-term maintenance would occur to ensure that vegetation adheres to the height requirements. Actions in alternative one are identical to the proposed action except for the treatment of vegetation in quad one. In this alternative, all vegetation within the quad would be cleared, the area would be grubbed and graded, wetlands would be filled in, and the area would be maintained as such. The FCD finds the proposed project to be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Resources Management Program.

### **HOW TO COMMENT:**

DEQ accepts comments from the public by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the project documents at DEQ's central office in Richmond.

### **CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

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